

News Release



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 13, 2007

Contact: Sheryl Watson

Phone: (916) 654-7538

Liz Burko Named California State Parks Russian River District Superintendent

SACRAMENTO – California State Parks Director Ruth Coleman announced today that Liz Burko will lead the Russian River District.

She brings with her 21 years of experience with the Department, including 15 years as a ranger. From the district office in Duncan Mills, Burko will oversee the District's six state parks: Armstrong Redwoods State Reserve, Austin Creek State Recreation Area, Fort Ross State Historic Park, Kruse Rhododendron State Reserve, Salt Point State Park and Sonoma Coast State Beach. All of them are in Sonoma County.

Burko started her career as a docent at Año Nuevo State Reserve in 1985 and then was hired there as a park aide.

She became a California State Park Ranger in 1991, starting out at Lake Perris State Recreation Area in Riverside County. She then worked in the Santa Cruz District at Castle Rock State Park and Portola Redwoods State Park. She was later promoted to supervising state park ranger at Big Basin Redwoods State Park, where she remained for six years.

From Big Basin she was promoted to superintendent II, then superintendent III in the department's North Coast Redwoods District before being promoted to the new position in the Russian River District.

Burko has a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Colorado at Boulder. She had a brief stint as a fisheries biologist with the National Marine Fisheries Service before coming to California State Parks.

She is originally from Ohio, where she still has family. She enjoys most outdoor activities including backpacking and birding.

###